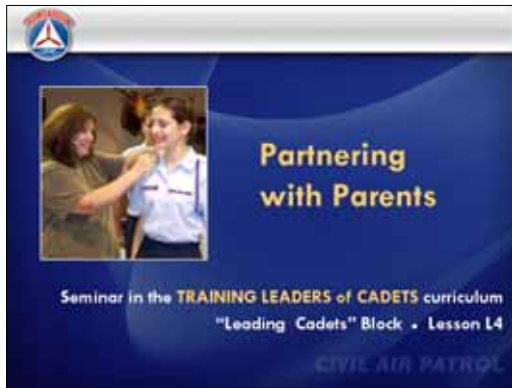


PARTNERING WITH PARENTS



Scope: Students will explore some of the dynamics involved when working with parents. First, what are the standard practices that all squadrons should use when partnering with parents of new cadets? Second, how might leaders of cadets build goodwill among parents by involving them in the life of the squadron? Third, what are some effective methods that can help leaders address parents’ concerns?

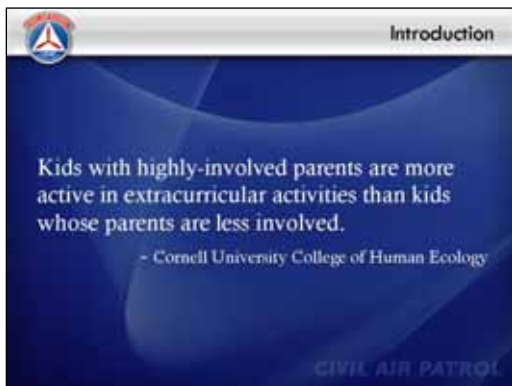
Format: Informal Lecture and Guided Discussion

Duration: 30 minutes

Objectives:

1. Identify standard practices squadrons should use to partner with parents.
2. Discuss innovative ways to foster communication and involve parents in CAP.
3. Describe methods for addressing parents’ concerns.

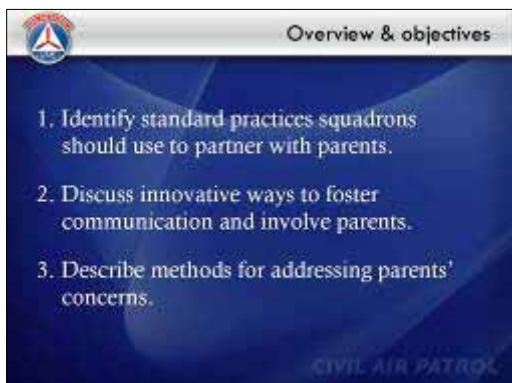
Resources: *Parent’s Guide to the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program*; PowerPoint slides.

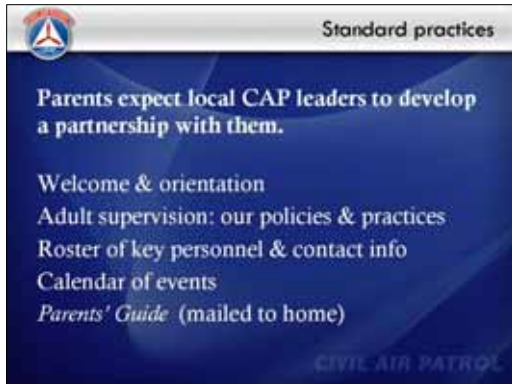


INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

Kids with highly-involved parents are more active in extracurricular activities than kids whose parents are less involved.

– Cornell University College of Human Ecology





MAIN POINT #1 STANDARD PRACTICES

Parents expect local CAP leaders to develop a partnership with them. There are five standard practices that CAP would like each squadron to follow in partnering with parents.

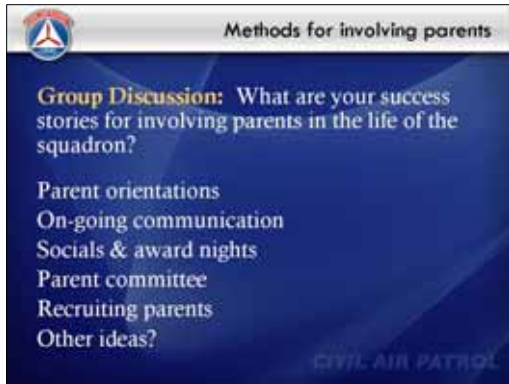
Welcome & Orientation:

Adult Supervision: Policies & Practices

Roster & Contact Info:

Calendar of Events:

Parents' Guide:



MAIN POINT #2 METHODS FOR INVOLVING PARENTS

There are dozens of ways parents can support the squadron without actually joining CAP. What are your success stories for involving parents in the life of your squadron?

Parent Orientations:

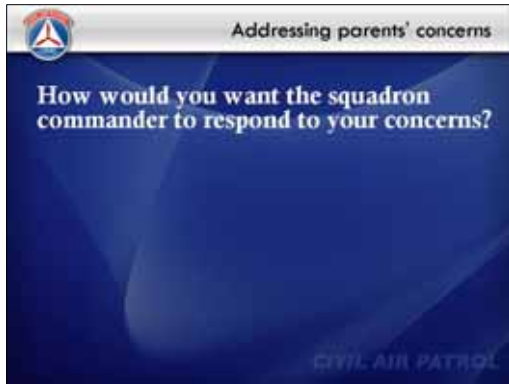
On-Going Communications:

Socials & Awards Nights:

Parents' Committee:

Recruiting:

Other Ideas:



MAIN POINT #3 ADDRESSING PARENTS' CONCERNS

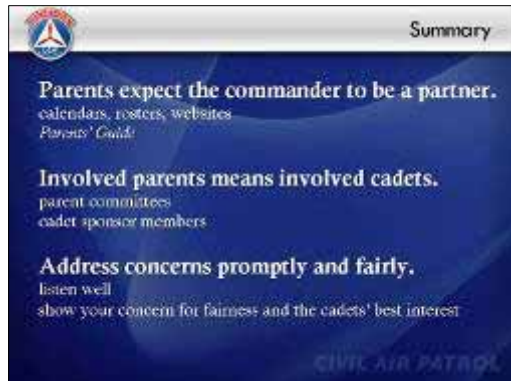
If we think of ourselves as partners with parents, then when a parent comes to us with a concern or complaints, we can turn a potentially negative experience into a positive one.

If you were a parent of a cadet, how would you want the squadron commander to respond to your concerns?

Classmates' Ideas:

Instructor's Ideas & Conclusions:

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS



For further reading:

CAPP 52-2, *Parents' Guide to the Civil Air Patrol*.

"How to Mobilize Moms & Dads." *Cadet Programs Today*, March & April 2005. cap.gov/cadets.

"Parent Involvement." National PTA. pta.org/parentinvolvement.